

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0646

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 06445

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, CY, UK

SUBJECT: BRITISH DISCUSSIONS WITH WALDHEIM, DENKTASH AND
CLERIDES; CALLAGHAN MESSAGES ON CYPRUS

SUMMARY: BRITISH IN VIENNA OBTAINED PRELIMINARY ASSESS-
MENTS FROM CLERIDES, DENKTASH, AND WALDHEIM SUNDAY AND
MONDAY AFTER DELIVERING CALLAGHAN MESSAGES TO EACH. CAL-
LAGHAN MESSAGES ALSO WENT TO CAGLAYANGIL AND BITSIOS.
THE LATTER HAS REPLIED. END SUMMARY.

1. ALL CALLAGHAN'S MESSAGES URGED SPEEDY SETTLEMENT DE-
SPITE RECOGNIZED DIFFICULTY OF SITUATION. THEY OFFERED
CALLAGHAN'S ASSISTANCE IF DESIRED.

2. IN ONLY FORMAL REPLY TO DATE, BITSIOS THANKED CALLAG-
HAN FOR HIS OFFER OF ASSISTANCE AND ASKED CALLAGHAN TO
JOIN GREECE IN URGING THAT WALDHEIM DEVOTE AS MUCH OF HIS
PERSONAL TIME AS POSSIBLE TO "DIRECTING THE NEGOTIATIONS".

3. IN TALK WITH BRITISH AMBASSADOR, CLERIDES EXPRESSED
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APPRECIATION FOR CALLAGHAN MESSAGE AND SAID HE AGREED

THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO REACH AN EARLY AGREEMENT. CLERIDES SAID HE WAS OPPOSED TO A LONG STRUGGLE AND THOUGHT SPIRIT OF MODERATION WAS GAINING AMONG HIS PEOPLE. HE ASSERTED HE ENJOYED ABSOLUTE FLEXIBILITY TO DISCUSS (N.B. NOT AGREE TO) ANY SOLUTION OR COMBINATION OF SOLUTIONS. HE HAD FOUND CARAMANLIS AGREEING WITH THIS APPROACH AT AIRPORT MEETING IN ATHENS AUGUST 26 AND THOUGHT CARAMANLIS COULD NOT HELP BUT AFFECT ATTITUDE OF MAKARIOS WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT.

4. CLERIDES SAID HE NEEDED VERY CLEAR IDEA FROM DENKTASH OF NATURE OF BIZONAL SOLUTION TURKS PROPOSED, INCLUDING AREA TO BE UNDER TURKISH CONTROL AND POWERS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. IF DENKTASH REMAINED CAGEY, CLERIDES' POSITION WOULD BE WEAKENED BACK HOME. CLERIDES SAID HE PLANNED TO OFFER MULTI-REGIONAL SOLUTION OF ONE LARGE TURKISH ENCLAVE AND ONE OR TWO SMALLER ONES IN GREEK ZONE. HE HOPED DISCUSSION WOULD PRODUCE AGREEMENT AT LEAST ON SOME COMMON GROUND TO SHOW DISTANCES ARE NOT UNBRIDGEABLE. HE HAD NO PREFERENCE ON EXACT VENUE FOR NEXT ROUND OF TALKS BUT THOUGHT THEY HAD BETTER BE OUTSIDE OF CYPRUS.

5. IN CONTRAST, DENKTASH WAS PESSIMISTIC WITH BRITISH. HE EXPRESSED USUAL CRITICISM OF MAKARIOS AND WAS SUSPICIOUS OF CLERIDES' "FAILURE" TO BRING OFF ATHENS "SUMMIT" CONFERENCE WITH CARAMANLIS. HE THOUGHT CLERIDES HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN FULL MANDATE FOR TALKS BUT WAS ONLY SOUNDING OUT TURKISH POSITION. HE SAID HE DID NOT WISH TO DEPRESS CLERIDES, BUT HE WOULD NOT BE MAKING THE SOUNDS CLERIDES WANTED TO HEAR.

6. WALDHEIM, SHORTLY AFTER HE ARRIVED, SAID HE HOPED TO GET AGREEMENT IN THIS ROUND TO COMMON PRINCIPLES ON AN INDEPENDENT REPUBLIC, A FEDERAL CONSTITUTION, A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, CERTAIN BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS, AND A NEW GUARANTEE OF THE CONSTITUTION. HE THOUGHT CLERIDES HAD WON A VICTORY OF SORTS IN REFUSING TO TAKE KYPRIANOU ALONG AS MAKARIOS HAD DESIRED, AND IN INCLUDING IN HIS PARTY ONLY A CLERK AND A SECRETARY.

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7. WALDHEIM THOUGHT THE TURKISH POSITION HAD HARDENED SINCE AUTUMN, AND DENKTASH MAY NOT EVEN BE PERMITTED TO GO AS FAR AS OFFERING REDUCTION OF THE TURKISH ZONE TO 30 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL. HE DOUBTED THAT DENKTASH WOULD STAY ONCE WALDHEIM LEFT VIENNA AT END OF THIS ROUND. WALDHEIM DID NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY OF RETURNING FOR A SECOND ROUND OF TALKS IF THIS LOOKED PROMISING.

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